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CIA Student Activities Defended

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 — A high intelligence official intimately connected with former Central Intelligence Agency Director Allen W. Dulles insisted Wednesday the CIA's 15-year practice of supplying millions of dollars to the National Students Assn. (NSA) and other student groups:

- Violated no restrictions in the agency's charter.
- Was "ordered by and scrupulously followed from the very top," meaning the White House.
- Was extremely successful in countering Communist propaganda at youth rallies abroad.
- Did not use American students as spies abroad.

Red influence

Dulles knew of the student money involvement program, but he did not initiate it, the source said. Initial contacts with student organizations in this country were made "to counteract the Soviet Communist practice of using youth or-

ganizations as fronts to control youth movements in other countries.

The Communists financed students and packed the assemblies—mass rallies in Helsinki, Vienna, Berlin and elsewhere—with fellows who would spout their views.

"It was very successful, highly successful," the source asserted. He said the money was spent here only to facilitate student attendance at overseas meetings.

This did not violate a ban on clandestine activities inside the U.S., he said, because "we don't and didn't operate in this country. Money is spent in this country but spreading money here isn't operating here. We spend money on the headquarters building, and on evaluation here of intelligence gathered abroad."

The source's statements came in response to an accusation by Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn) that the CIA expanded beyond intelligence gathering into other fields "beginning when Allen W. Dulles was its director and his brother John Foster Dulles was secretary of state."

Operating Arm

(Allen Dulles became deputy director of the CIA in 1951 and its director on Jan. 24, 1953, shortly after President Eisenhower took office.)

"The agency has become the operating arm of the State of Department overseas and also here at home," McCarthy declared. "The record shows the CIA function has been greatly expanded and confused" since Dulles took over.

"There have been five or six indications of its involvement in primarily domestic operations, he added. Besides the disclosure the CIA supplied a reported \$3 million to the NSA and additional money to other domestic organizations, McCarthy cited reported CIA backing of universities, campus research programs, the subsidizing of the writing of books for foreign and domestic consumption and radio broadcasts having influence at home and abroad.

The Dulles-linked source did not comment on charges the CIA has backed philanthropic foundations here as fronts for

students and for domestic propaganda, but said "all this comes under the heading of intelligence-related activities."